

Human Services Committee

March 6, 2007

Raised Bill No. 7302

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE RATES PAID TO PROVIDERS UNDER THE
CHILD CARE SUBSIDY PROGRAM.**

My name is Daisy Carrasco. I run a licensed in home day care in Hartford. I have been a child care provider for twenty years.

Please support Raised Bill No. 7302, **An Act Concerning The Rates Paid To Providers Under The Child Care Subsidy Program.**

I work in my home eight hours a day as a licensed child care provider and a foster parent. I care for nine children, three before, and three after school, with my assistant. Child care involves a lot of responsibility. I am not a babysitter, and I have many roles. At times I am a nurse, and always I am an educator.

Income for in-home child care providers is unpredictable. My earnings can drop at any time without much warning. Sometimes parents cannot afford to pay their share of childcare and providers like me must make do with less or not at all. The reimbursements from the State for child care providers can vary a great deal, and I worry about how I'll pay my bills. Adding to the financial insecurity is the fact that I pay for all of my medical costs out of my pocket. I know of child care providers who have had to give up working with children because the high cost of health care drove them to better paying jobs.

This bill is important not only to me but also to the families I serve who are concerned there won't be enough providers like me to care for their children. Parents need us so they can work themselves. The mothers of all the children I care for are single and work. They must constantly worry about how they would

keep their jobs if I couldn't afford to continue my work and could not care for their kids! Please, raise the childcare subsidy rates in Connecticut. Please support Raised Bill No. 7302.

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